

Serial Number: 09/773,598

Group Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously canceled)

2. ~~(Canceled) The method of Claim 4, wherein said water-insoluble carrier is a water-insoluble porous carrier.~~

3. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein said ~~water-insoluble~~ porous cellulose carrier has an exclusion limit for globular protein of 5,000 to 600,000.

4. (Twice Amended) A method for removing a transforming growth factor- $\beta$  from a body fluid, which comprises bringing a body fluid into contact with an adsorbent comprising (i) a ~~water-insoluble porous cellulose~~ carrier, and (ii) a compound immobilized on said carrier and having a log P value of at least 2.50 wherein P is a partition coefficient in an octanol-water system, said body fluid being a member selected from the group consisting of plasma, serum, ascites, lymph and synovia.

5. (Previously canceled)

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In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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NES:rep  
Encls.: Petition for One-Month Extension of Time  
Request for Continued Examination